



TOWN OF GRANBY
COA Building
10 West State Street
Granby, MA 01033

Telephone: (413) 467-7177 Fax: (413) 467-2080
Website: www.granby-ma.gov

Town Administrator: Christopher Martin

Granby Select Board: Louis Barry, Chair

Mark L. Bail, Clerk

Mary A. McDowell, Member

Board Meeting: February 25, 2013 @ 6:30 P.M.

AGENDA:

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

OLD BUSINESS:

Waste Management Closure Update

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

APPOINTMENTS:

6:32 STEVEN NALLY-NOTE #438

6:35 MASTER PLAN

6:45 MSBA-SCHOOL COMMITTEE

7:15 JOHN WHITE-GAA

7:30 SHAINA HUMPREY-DINOSAURS

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION:

1 Accept Departmental Reports

2 Approve and Sign Maintenance

3 Approve request for Sewer Abatement

4 Accept Ethics Disclosure

5 STM-Warrant Articles-Readings

6 FY-14-Budgets-TA

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT



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Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2013

Members Present: Mark Bail, Louis Barry, and Mary McDowell.

Others Present: Christopher Martin

Mr. Barry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. and led the meeting with the “Pledge of Allegiance”.

APPOINTMENTS

Steve Nally: On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted on to approve Note #438-1 for the \$43,280 dated March 15, 2013 issued to United Bank with an interest rate of .5% per annual payment of maturity, date March 14, 2014. This is for the Library renovations, SCADA System and Kellogg Hall roof repairs.

Master Plan: The Master Plan for the Town of Granby was presented to the Select Board and the completed plan is being forwarded to the Planning Board by the Town Administrator for their review and acceptance. There are a couple notes regarding the goals, which are missing. The Town Administrator will notify the Planning Board of the missing information.

MSBA and School Committee: West Street School has been invited into MSBA’s 270 day Eligibility Period. This is an invitation that is the start of the MSBA’s grant approval process. It will give Granby Schools a chance to get help in finances, community readiness, and if all steps are successfully completed, West Street is eligible for an MSBA invitation to the Feasibility Study.

On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted to give Mr. Martin the authority to sign the West Street Elementary School into the MSBA Eligibility Period. This is the first step in the MSBA Eligibility process. The next steps were mentioned, but no decisions were made on any other step.

It was later discussed as to who will be on the School Building Committee. Mr. Martin wants to leave the positions open for a while to give people the chance to get on the committee. Mrs. McDowell would like to see younger people become part of the committee.

GAA: John White of 146 Amherst Street with Greg Hurley (Commissioner of the GAA) came in front of the Board to discuss putting a storage shed at Dufresne Park. GAA is an all-volunteer organization that services kids in athletics. They use Dufresne Park predominantly. Last year, they had a few issues with storage and equipment. The soccer nets were thrown in the pond,

bases have been stolen before. So tonight, the GAA would like to purchase a storage unit to place at Dufresne Park for storing of their equipment. A couple options for storage units were tossed around. The Select Board has told GAA that they need conformation from the Conservation Commission and a map of the storage unit's placement would be nice, as well as a discussion with the Building Inspector on the shed. Mr. White was asked come back to the Board once he has all the information that they discussed.

Shaina Humphrey and Dinosaurs: Shaina Humphrey is in charge of a dinosaur project. She has seven dinosaurs that are slated and ready to put up later this year. She is looking for permission to place one at Dufresne's Park. She is looking to put it closer to Route 202. She is proposing that they put the one dinosaur 1000ft south of the Dufresne's Park sign and 50ft off the road. The Select Board has requested that she speak to the Conservation Commission and the Building Inspector, and that they will contact Mr. Martin, with their answers. The Select Board has suggested that Mrs. Humphrey bring a sketch of her idea of the placement of the dinosaur with her when she meets with the Conservation Commission.

NEW BUSINESS AND INFORMATION

Approve Departmental Reports: On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted on to approve the departmental reports as written.

Approve and sign Maintenance: On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted on to approve and sign the maintenance warrants.

Sewer Abatement for Mr. Marion: On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted to grant a Sewer Abatement Certificate for Sewer Bill #2170-217, Commitment #13-1. This is for Eugene Marion of 28 Pleasant Street Granby, MA 01033. He was billed at \$625.50. The amount to be abated is \$347.50. That makes the final bill \$278.00. All the same procedures were followed as they are every year.

Ethics Disclosure: On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted on to accept the ethics disclosure by Chief Wishart.

STM-Warrant Articles: The Select Board read through all of the articles that will be covered at the Special Town Meeting on March 4, 2013. They also decided who would review each article at the Special Town Meeting. One of the articles is about legislation being taken about South Hadley District #2. There will be a postcard that will go out to all households asking them to come to the Special Town Meeting. Mr. Martin is going to see if Attorney Giorgio (who wrote the legislation) could make it to the Special Town Meeting. This is just to answer any questions one might have about this legislation or the legislation procedure.

Budget Fiscal Year 14: To meet the 5%, Mr. Martin took the landfill clerk from the Select Board's budget and put it in the Landfill Enterprise fund. The Finance Committee wants to leave the \$305,000 above minimum, in the budget, to the schools, this year. Mr. Martin does not agree with this because the schools should go through the same budget cuts, being a town department.

The other option is; to have the town offices go from operating five days a week to four days a week. We could potentially try to get an override passed for the town's taxes, but with the country's, states, and town's financial state Mr. Martin does not believe that would pass. On that note, Mr. Martin will try to get that \$305,000 decreased. The Finance Committee's logic is that the school got that override and it should stay that way forever. However, the COA and the Police Department have had overrides and they are not getting their money anymore.

Mr. Barry asked how the Federal Sequester is going to affect Granby, but Mr. Martin doubts that it will affect us, right now. The biggest concern Mr. Martin has towards the federal government is Obama Care. He is concerned as to how much that will cost Granby.

There was unanimous concern about the budget cuts for the Select Board. The money is to be moved to a different account and Mrs. McDowell and Mr. Barry do not feel comfortable about the Select Board not cutting their budget when other departments are. Not to mention, that idea would not save the Town of Granby any money.

The next step is to keep looking it over and trying to get the budget to balance.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Terry Lajoie: Asked the Select Board to sign off on her grant proposal and brought up that the Select Board needs to ask the Historic District Commission for permission to take down Aldrich Hall. However, it is a little confusing as to who needs to be asked first, Historic District Commission or Town Meeting. However, to get an answer from the Historic District Commission, they have to get together all of their members. Not to mention, the Select Board needs to submit paperwork to get a certificate for the applicability for demolition.

The board continued to discuss what paperwork they would give to the Historic District Commission and what order to go in (Historic, then Town or Town, then Historic). Also, they need the deed for Aldrich Hall and they discussed where they could find it.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted on to grant a hardship for the household that Mr. Martin had read.

Mr. Martin got the title for the Forge Pond Acquisition from Attorney Ryan. So, that project can move forward. Next, their attorney, Attorney Drisco will be contacted to draw up the documents for the closing.

For the Kellogg Hall property, Mr. Martin got an appraisal from FSI. It would cost \$2200 and takes three weeks to do an appraisal on Kellogg Hall. Mr. Martin will sign the proposal and that project will move forward.

Positions Openings in Granby: Mrs. McDowell would like to see Granby's government position openings be listed in the Sentinel.

Other Business: The Veterans Committee needs to speak to the Conservation Commission to see where they are placing their war memorial.

There is a conference call between Belchertown, McDuffie, and DEP about the Belchertown sewers.

The Historical Society is to be contacted about redoing the foundation of the old court house on West Street.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted on to approve the minutes from December 10th and November 5th 2012.

Adjournment: On a motion by Mr. Bail and seconded by Ms. McDowell, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the February 24, 2013 @ 8:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Cathy Leonard, Town Administrator's Secretary
Olivia DePino, Student Intern